

Foreign Agricultural Service *GAIN* Report

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GAIN Report #TW2008

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Taiwan

Grain and Feed

Initial Private Rice Quota Allocation Results 2002

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Report Highlights:

Taiwan allocated 669 mt of rice quota rights to local importers for private imports. Of the total, 52 mt went to processed rice products at a markup of NT\$25.59/mt while the rest was allocated at NT\$23.26/kg for table rice. Local industry sources expect the markup to settle at NT\$17.26/kg. The allocation process for the first tranche of 10,000 mt will likely be completed on April 10.

Rice Quota Allocation Results of the 1st Session of the 1st Allocation Installment

On March 13, 2002, Taiwan distributed 669 mt of rice quota to local importers for private imports as a part of the first 10,000 mt quota tranche. Of the total, 52 mt went to processed rice products at a markup of NT\$25.59/mt while the rest was allocated at NT\$23.26/kg and used for table rice. The unallocated quota will be allocated in the next session, on March 26, with a NT\$3/kg reduction of markup prices. Each session will last two weeks with a decrease of NT\$3/kg in the markup in each round. The process will continue until all of the announced 10,000 mt tranche is allocated. Local industry sources expect the markup price to settle at NT\$17.23/kg. Post concurs and anticipates that the 1st tranche to be completed on April 10 in the 3rd session. The second tranche announcement is expected soon after April 10 partially to avoid having imported rice competing with the local rice harvest. There is no harvest from March to May.

For further information on Taiwan's post-WTO accession rice market, please see TW2002.

Exchange Rate: U.S.\$1=NT\$35